Air Resources Board



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June 22, 2007

Mail-Out #MSC 07-20

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Regulation Workshop

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop on July 24, 2007 in Sacramento, California to discuss proposed amendments to the ZEV program. The proposed changes respond to issues identified by the Board at its May 2007 meeting and take into account current conditions and trends in zero and near-zero emissions technology development. In general, the Board directed staff to:

- Determine the appropriate volume and timing requirements for the next phases of fuel cell vehicle development under the Alternative Path;
- Identify what changes would need to be made to Partial ZEV and Advanced Technology Partial ZEV volumes if changes are made to the Alternative Path provisions;
- Examine the treatment of battery electric vehicles to encourage manufacturers to pursue that technology;
- Encourage commercialization of all electric range mode and blended mode plug-in hybrid electric vehicles;
- Review the credit provided to neighborhood electric vehicles;
- Consider extending the "travel" provision, a component of the regulation that allows vehicles placed in California to count towards compliance with other state programs; and
- Assess the feasibility of conventional vehicles that emit at levels far below the Partial Allowance ZEV standards and determine how to best encourage the production of such vehicles.

Specific direction and background information is included in Board Resolution 07-18: http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/zevprog/zevprog/zevreview/0507meeting/res0718_zev.pdf .

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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ARB staff is preparing a concept paper that further develops these proposed changes. The paper and a workshop agenda will be made available via the ZEV Program Internet website (http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/zevprog/zevprog.htm) in a couple of weeks. You may also obtain them by contacting the ARB staff listed below. Staff will explore each of these amendments at the workshop and ask questions about the anticipated impacts of such changes. Comments presented and public input received at the workshop will be used in drafting a final proposal for the Board's consideration at its December 2007 hearing.

Details of the workshop are as follows:

Date: July 24, 2007

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: California Environmental Protection Agency

Byron Sher Auditorium

1001 I Street

Sacramento, California 95814

Staff Contact: Mark Williams, (916) 327-5610

mwilliam@arb.ca.gov

For those unable to attend in person, a live Internet broadcast (webcast) will be available. An email address will also be available to submit questions or comments during the webcast. The webcast can be accessed on the day of the workshop at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/?BDO=1.

For your information, ARB has set up an Internet list serve for the ZEV Program. If you sign up for this list serve, you will receive an email notice when new information has been posted regarding the ZEV Program, including the 2007 ZEV Hearing. To subscribe to the ZEV Program list serve, please visit the Internet at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/zev-program.htm.

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please consult the Internet at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm, for assistance or contact the ADA Coordinator, by telephone at (916) 323-4916. If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please consult the Internet at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eeo/languageaccess.htm or contact the Bilingual Coordinator, by telephone at (916) 324-5049.

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We welcome and encourage your participation in this effort. If you have questions regarding either the workshop or the proposed modifications to the ZEV program, please contact Mr. Tony Andreoni, Manager, by telephone at (916) 324-6021, or by email at tandreon@arb.ca.gov, or Mr. Mark Williams, Air Pollution Specialist, by telephone at (916) 327-5610, or by email at mwilliam@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Mr. Tony Andreoni, Manager
Zero Emission Vehicle Implementation Section

Mr. Mark Williams Air Pollution Specialist Zero Emission Vehicle Implementation Section